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Assembly
California Legislature



TIM LESLIE
ASSEMBLYMAN, FOURTH DISTRICT
August 27, 2004

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DEVELOP A MASTER PLAN TO END POVERTY IN CA.
FAIRS ALLOCATION & CLASSIFICATION

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor
State of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

I respectfully request your veto of Assembly Bill 1829 (Liu), which would prohibit the state, county and other local governments from contracting with businesses who outsource work.

I strongly support keeping jobs located in California, but I believe just as strongly that AB 1829 is not the appropriate solution for the current problems California faces. The bottom line is that this measure does nothing to address the fundamental reason for why jobs are leaving California – a reason for which you have been rightfully trying to correct – our anti-business climate.

Thankfully, since you have been elected, we have delivered some relief to businesses through workers' comp reform. However, our business climate is far from recovered, and the majority party continues to push an extreme agenda that will only make the business climate more tepid.

Republicans have offered many bills over the last several years to bolster our business climate in order to save jobs and the majority party has defeated all of them. I applaud the author of AB 1829 for finally recognizing the fact that California is losing jobs, but again, it is not the appropriate remedy.

In fact, "outstating" appears to be a bigger problem than outsourcing. Citing the low cost of business in small U.S. towns, many businesses have outsourced portions of their businesses to rural America. So far 650 jobs have been created in St. Mary's Georgia, 600 in Kalispell, Montana, and many other small cities across the country are feeling the benefits of this recent trend. There is no reason that California should not feel those same benefits.

AB 1829 is a mere bandage for a problem that needs a whole body-cast to resolve. I am very confident that your leadership will continue to bring real solutions to our ailing business climate and again respectfully request your veto of AB 1829.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Leslie".

TIM LESLIE
Assemblyman, Fourth District

TL: kto